

CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-10. (Cancelled).

11. (Currently Amended) Apparatus ~~according to claim 10~~ for the post treatment of an ultrasonically welded seamed flexible imaging member belt to produce a smooth seam region comprising:

a lower support member having a smooth upper flat surface adapted to receive and support a seam region of a welded seamed flexible imaging member belt comprising thermoplastic polymer material having a predetermined glass transition temperature;

wherein the ~~heatable member is a~~ an upper heatable strip having a smooth lower heatable flat surface, the lower heatable flat surface of the heatable strip having a profile which is parallel to the smooth flat surface of the support member, the lower heatable flat surface comprising a low surface energy or adhesive material, the strip aligned for centering over the seam region, and wherein the strip has a width of between about 6 mm and about 30 mm; and

a rotatable compression wheel located so as to contact the upper heatable strip to compress the strip against the seam region;

wherein the lower support member and the upper heatable strip are located so as to directly contact the flexible imaging member belt; and

wherein the rotatable compression wheel moves transversely across the seam region.

12. (Cancelled) Apparatus according to **claim 11** wherein a rotatable compression wheel contacts the strip to compress the strip against the seam.

13. (Cancelled).

14. (Cancelled).

15. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to ~~claim 10~~ for the post treatment of an ultrasonically welded seamed flexible imaging member belt to produce a smooth seam region comprising:

a lower support member having a smooth upper flat surface adapted to receive and support a seam region of a welded seamed flexible imaging member belt comprising thermoplastic polymer material having a predetermined glass transition temperature; and

an upper wherein the heatable member is a rotatable compression wheel having a smooth lower heatable flat surface, the wheel having a profile which is parallel to the flat surface of the support member, wherein the heatable flat surface comprises a low surface energy or adhesive material,

wherein the lower support member and the upper heatable rotatable compression wheel are located so as to directly contact the flexible imaging member belt

and wherein the upper heatable rotatable compression wheel moves transversely across the seam region.

16. (Original) Apparatus according to **claim 15** wherein the rotatable compression heating wheel surface comprises a low surface energy or adhesive material.

17. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to **claim 11** wherein the strip is a metal or a plastic.

18. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to **claim 11** wherein the strip is an electrically resistive material or a composite device.

19. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to **claim 18** wherein the strip comprises a supporting member containing imbedded resistance wires spaced to ensure uniform heating along the length of the strip.

20. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to **claim 11** wherein the strip raises the temperature of the seam area from about 2°C to 25°C above the glass transition temperature (T_g), but below the melting temperature, of the thermoplastic polymer material in at least the charge transport layer of the imaging member belt.

21. (Cancelled).

22. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to **claim 12 11** wherein the rotatable compression wheel comprises a hard plastic, metal, or composite material.

23. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to **claim 12 11** wherein the rotatable compression wheel is a metal wheel with a smooth polished surface.

24. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to **claim 12 11** wherein a rotatable compression wheel may be moved manually or automatically.

25. (Cancelled).

26. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to **claim 10 11** wherein the low surface energy or adhesive material comprises Teflon, fluoro-hydrocarbon polymer, silicone, polyimide, and the like.

27. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to **claim 16** wherein the low surface energy or adhesive material is a thin Teflon coating.